

executed and filed for each semi-monthly return period notwithstanding that no tax is due for payment for such period. The proprietor of each bonded premises shall include, for payment, on his semi-monthly return on Form 5000.24, the full amount of distilled spirits tax determined in respect of all spirits released for withdrawal from the bonded premises on determination of tax during the period covered by the return (except spirits on which tax has been prepaid).

(b) *Conditions under which deferral is denied.* Notwithstanding the posting of a withdrawal or unit bond by the proprietor, the tax shall be prepaid as provided in paragraph (c) of this section—

(1) Where a proprietor has defaulted in any payment of tax under this section, during the period of such default and until the regional director (compliance) finds that the revenue will not be jeopardized by deferral; or

(2) Where a proprietor, who, after having been notified of his deficiency by the regional director (compliance) (i) fails to maintain records required by this part to substantiate the correctness of his tax returns or (ii) otherwise fails to comply with any provisions of this part, is so notified by the regional director (compliance).

(c) *Prepaid taxes.* The tax on distilled spirits shall be paid pursuant to a prepayment return on Form 5000.24 in all cases where the tax is required to be paid before the spirits are withdrawn from bond. A single prepayment return on Form 5000.24 may cover one or more transactions. The proprietor shall note the serial number of the Form 5000.24 and the date and time such prepayment return was filed on the individual record of tax determination.

(Sec. 201, Pub. L. 85-859, 72 Stat. 1335, as amended, 1395, as amended (26 U.S.C. 5061, 5555))

[T.D. ATF-198, 50 FR 8464, Mar. 1, 1985, as amended by T.D. ATF-219, 50 FR 51387, Dec. 17, 1985; T.D. ATF-365 60 FR 33668, June 28, 1995]

#### § 19.523 Time for filing returns.

(a) *Payment pursuant to semi-monthly return.* Where the proprietor of bonded premises has withdrawn spirits from such premises on determination and before payment of tax, the proprietor

shall file a semi-monthly tax return covering such spirits on Form 5000.24, and remittance, as required by § 19.524 or § 19.525, not later than the 14th day after the last day of the return period, except as provided by paragraph (c) of this section. If the due date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the return and remittance shall be due on the immediately preceding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, except as provided by paragraph (c)(3) of this section.

(b) *Payment pursuant to prepayment return.* If the proprietor of a distilled spirits plant desires to withdraw spirits from bonded premises on determination of tax and does not have on file an approved withdrawal or unit bond of sufficient penal sum to cover the withdrawal, if there is default by him in any payment of tax under this part, or the proprietor is notified by the regional director (compliance) as provided in § 19.522(b)(2), the proprietor shall not remove the spirits from the bonded premises until the tax thereon has been paid. To pay the tax, the proprietor of the bonded premises shall file a prepayment return on Form 5000.24, and remittance as required by § 19.524 or § 19.525, before removal of the spirits.

(c) *Special rule for taxes due for the month of September (effective after December 31, 1994).* (1)(i) Except as provided in paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section, the second semi-monthly period for the month of September shall be divided into two payment periods, from the 16th day through the 26th day, and from the 27th day through the 30th day. The proprietor shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 16-26, no later than September 29. The proprietor shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 27-30, no later than October 14.

(ii) *Taxpayment not by electronic fund transfer.* In the case of taxes not required to be remitted by electronic fund transfer as prescribed by § 19.524, the second semi-monthly period of September shall be divided into two payment periods, from the 16th day through the 25th day, and the 26th day through the 30th day. The proprietor shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and

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make remittance, for the period September 16–25, no later than September 28. The proprietor shall file a return on Form 5000.24, and make remittance, for the period September 26–30, no later than October 14.

(2) *Amount of payment: Safe harbor rule.* (i) Taxpayers are considered to have met the requirements of paragraph (c)(1)(i) of this section, if the amount paid no later than September 29 is not less than  $\frac{11}{15}$  (73.3 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semi-monthly period beginning on September 1 and ending on September 15, and if any underpayment of tax is paid by October 14.

(ii) Taxpayers are considered to have met the requirements of paragraph (c)(1)(ii) of this section, if the amount paid no later than September 28 is not less than  $\frac{2}{3}$  (66.7 percent) of the tax liability incurred for the semimonthly period beginning on September 1 and ending on September 15, and if any underpayment of tax is paid by October 14.

(3) *Last day for payment.* If the required taxpayment due date for the periods September 16–25 or September 16–26 as applicable, falls on a Saturday or legal holiday, the return and remittance shall be due on the immediately preceding day. If the required due date falls on a Sunday, the return and remittance shall be due on the immediately following day.

(4) *Example. Payment of tax for the month of September.* (i) *Facts.* X, a distilled spirits plant proprietor required to pay taxes by electronic fund transfer, incurred tax liability in the amount of \$30,000 for the first semi-monthly period of September. For the period September 16–26, X incurred tax liability in the amount of \$45,000, and for the period September 27–30, X incurred tax liability in the amount of \$2,000.

(ii) *Payment requirement.* X's payment of tax in the amount of \$30,000 for the first semimonthly period of September is due no later than September 29 (§19.522(a)). X's payment of tax for the period September 16–26 is also due no later than September 29 (§19.523(c)(1)(i)). X may use the safe harbor rule to determine the amount of payment due for the period of Sep-

tember 16–26 (§19.523(c)(2)). Under the safe harbor rule, X's payment of tax must equal \$21,990.00,  $\frac{11}{15}$ ths of the tax liability incurred during the first semi-monthly period of September. Additionally, X's payment of tax in the amount of \$2,000 for the period September 27–30 must be paid no later than October 14 (§19.523(c)(1)(i)). X must also pay the underpayment of tax, \$23,010.00, for the period September 16–26, no later than October 14 (§19.523(c)(2)).

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1512–0467)

[T.D. ATF-219, 50 FR 51387, Dec. 17, 1985, as amended by T.D. ATF-246, 52 FR 668, Jan. 8, 1987; T.D. ATF-365, 60 FR 33668, June 28, 1995]

### § 19.524 Payment of tax by electronic fund transfer.

(a) *General.* (1) Each taxpayer who was liable, during a calendar year, for a gross amount equal to or exceeding five million dollars in distilled spirits taxes combining tax liabilities incurred under this part and parts 26 and 27 of this chapter, shall use a commercial bank in making payment by electronic fund transfer (EFT) of distilled spirits taxes during the succeeding calendar year. Payment of distilled spirits taxes by cash, check, or money order, as described in §19.525, is not authorized for a taxpayer who is required, by this section, to make remittances by EFT. For purposes of this section, the dollar amount of tax liability is defined as the gross tax liability on all taxable withdrawals and importations (including distilled spirits products brought into the United States from Puerto Rico or the Virgin Islands) during the calendar year, without regard to any drawbacks, credits, or refunds, for all premises from which such activities are conducted by the taxpayer. Overpayments are not taken into account in summarizing the gross tax liability.

(2) For the purposes of this section, a taxpayer includes a controlled group of corporations, as defined in 26 U.S.C. 1563, and implementing regulations in 26 CFR 1.1563–1 through 1.1563–4, except that the words “at least 80 percent” shall be replaced by the words “more than 50 percent” in each place it appears in subsection (a) of 26 U.S.C. 1563,